IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Kazunori Nishikawa, et al.

Application No. Unknown

Filed: June 24, 2003

Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Atty. Docket No.: 500615.20199

Customer No.: 026148

TOILET COVER OPENING/CLOSING DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Enclosed is Form PTO-1449 which lists the references being cited along with a copy of each of the references.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any document referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 291 442 672 US

FACSIMILE

☑ deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on June 24, 2003 and is addressed to	$\hfill \square$ transmitted by facsimile on [date] to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.
the: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313	
Ruth Montalvo	Type Signature Name

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

Information Disclosure Statement Atty Docket No. 500615.20198 Page No.2

The references may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and is made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the item and to independently ascertain it's

	ning.	the it	em and to independently ascertain it s
1.	\boxtimes	Enclo	osed is PTO Form 1449 (and a duplicate thereof).
2.	\boxtimes		listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are not in English language.
		\boxtimes	For each of the following items, an English- language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is attached:
			Japanese Patent Laid-open No. H11-076103; and Japanese Patent Laid-open No. H11-076105.
			For each of the following items, a concise explanation of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application:
			For each of the following items, a corresponding U.S. or other English-language patent is enclosed. Please consider the U.S. or other English-language patents in accordance with the procedure set forth in MPEP § 609:
3.		Submi	ssion in Accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98(d).
		PTO-1 Discl submi Appli which	copy of the items listed on the enclosed Form 449 that is not enclosed with this Information cosure Statement was previously cited by or atted to the Patent and Trademark Office in cation Serial No. [Ser. No.], filed [Date], of the present application relies upon for an ter filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.
4.	\boxtimes	Submi	ssion in Accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed

\boxtimes	With the application;
	Within three months of the filing date of a national application;
	Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage in an international application; or

Atty Docket No. 500615.20198 Page No.3 П Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, and NO FEE is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. 5. Submission in Accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the first mailing date of either A final action under § 1.113; or A notice of allowance under § 1.311. A fee is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and the fee is paid below; or This Information Disclosure Statement is \Box accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(e), and NO FEE is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Submission in Accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(d). 6. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either A final action under § 1.113; or A notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by One of the certifications pursuant to 37 a. CFR § 1.97(e), which is set forth below; The attached petition requesting b. consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and The petition fee under 37 CFR § c. 1.17(i)(1), which is paid below. Certification Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e). 7. The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or

Information Disclosure Statement

Information Disclosure Statement Atty Docket No. 500615.20198
Page No.4

The undersigned certifies that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

8. Fee Payment Being Made.

- \$240.00 fee for submission under 37 CFR \$ 1.97(c).
- \$130.00 fee for submission under 37 CFR \$ 1.97(d).
- A check in the amount of \$[Amount] to cover the fee payment is enclosed.
- Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1529. A duplicate copy of this communication is attached.
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this Information Disclosure Statement or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1529. A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Eugene LeDonne Reg. No. 35,930

REED SMITH LLE

599 Lexington Avenue

29th Floor

New York, NY 10022

(P) 212 521-5400

Attorney for Applicants

Please type a plus :	sign (+) inside	this box →	+
----------------------	-----------------	------------	---

Sheet

Unknown

PTO/SB/08A (10-96)
Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO	Complete if Known			
INFORMATION BIOOLOGUEE	Application Number			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Filing Date	June 24, 2003		
	First Named Inventor	Kazunori Nishikawa		
	Group Art Unit	Unknown		

(use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** Attorney Docket Number of 500615.20198

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Pater Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
1						
					1	
					 	
1				,	1	
1						
					<u> </u>	
		·			<u> </u>	
						-
					†	
					 	
					 	
	-		- 		 	
					 	
					+	

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Office ³	Foreign Patent Docur Number ⁴	nent Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Т6
		JP	11-076103		Naokazu	03/23/1999		X
		JP	11-076105		Tadaaki, et al.	03/23/1999		×
								<u> </u>
						-		-
		 						╁
						1		

Examiner	 Date	
Signature	 Considered	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.